

THE BUSINESS



Galway's business and appointments news with Julie Tierney

Meet Galway's Young Entrepreneur finalists 2005

John McGuire
— Fat Tony's



Fat Tony's provides the total male grooming experience from haircuts to shaves, facials and massages, in a comfortable male only environment. This year John set up 'Groom' private treatment rooms where skincare, massage, and facials are carried out in comfort. This complements the barber shop which has 11 highly experienced barbers providing up to the minute styles, hot towel shaves, and the finest hair products. John McGuire trained as a hairdresser for four years before moving into barbering. He managed and worked in barber shops around Galway for 10 years, gaining a wealth of experience before setting up Fat Tony's.

For more information contact John at 8a Liosban Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway or telephone (091) 766707.

Pearce Flannery
— Pragmatica



Business Solutions
Pragmatica Business Solutions is the definitive one stop shop for motoring related specialist solutions and advice. It is recognised as the market leader in the provision of specialist and management services to the motor industry. Some areas of expertise include: Human resources, network development,

sales and marketing development, operational audits, industry research, and online motor retailing at Yourcar.ie. Pragmatica founded in 2004 is a result of Pearce Flannery's extensive experience in the Irish motor industry where he has held all senior commercial and management positions.

For further information contact Pearce at BSM Building, Parkmore Business Park, Ballybrit, telephone (091) 746960, or log onto www.pragmatica.ie

Paul Gill
— Claregalway Hotel



The uniqueness of the Claregalway Hotel can be seen from every angle as it offers guests the experience of relaxing in a comfortable luxurious hotel in a village setting. The experience includes 48 spacious and modern cosy bedrooms, luxurious health and leisure centre, contemporary River Bistro restaurant, and fun bars such as Cusack's Bar.

Paul Gill, the man responsible for the Claregalway Hotel's success, graduated from Shannon College of Hotel Management. He gained his initial experience in Zurich, Switzerland, and Southhampton, England. He returned to Ireland and worked in The Connemara Coast Hotel as senior assistant manager and then joined The Ardilaun House Hotel management team.

For further information contact Paul at the Claregalway Hotel, Claregalway, Co Galway, online at www.claregalwayhotel.ie or telephone (091) 738300.

Kealan Doyle
— Seahorse Ireland



Seahorse Ireland is the world's first successful seahorse cultivation and research enterprise. Seahorses are under threat of imminent extinction with a worldwide decline of 50 per cent in wild fisheries over the last five years. The company provides captive bred seahorses and ancillary products for the worldwide aquarium trade supplying individuals, pet-stores, wholesalers, public aquaria, and corporate clients such as Estée Lauder, Tiffany's and Waterford Crystal. Kealan Doyle manages the business which comprises 20 employees. He is recognised as one of the leading global experts in seahorse cultivation and has more than 10 years' experience working with seahorses in Africa, South America, Asia, and Australasia.

For further information contact Seahorse Ireland at Carna, Connemara, Co Galway, online at www.seahorseireland.com or telephone (095) 32085.

Marco Magnetti
— Magnetti Foods



Marco, having taken over the family owned Italian restaurant on Quay Street in Galway, initiated the idea of making real 'pasta al uovo' the traditional way. Using the recipes that had established his parents in

the restaurant trade, Magnetti Foods began to offer a real fresh pasta meal to take home. It uses many of the popular recipes from the restaurant as a base for the products it currently retails. Magnetti Foods produces traditional style fresh egg pasta, sold uncooked to the catering sector. The business manufactures pasta in a traditional style which cannot be imported because of the shelf life and offers the customer a real home cooked meal.

For further information contact Magnetti Foods at Unit 14, Clarenbridge Business Park, Clarenbridge, Co Galway, online at www.magnettifoods.com or telephone (091) 776580

Declan Ganley
— Rivada Networks



Declan Ganley has founded some of the most innovative companies existing in the world today such as Broadnet, Europe's largest broadband wireless company recently sold to Comcast and Cabletel, Bulgaria's largest cable TV company. Rivada Networks is his latest venture which is a leading designer and operator of emergency communications networks for homeland security and defence forces in the US and Europe. Innovations include use of advanced wireless technology to provide reliable robust broadband public safety communications solutions in the US and Europe, leveraging off commercial, off-the-shelf technology.

For further information contact Declan at Rivada Networks, Moyne Park, Tuam, Co Galway, online at www.rivada.com or telephone (093) 43900.

Frances Cahill
— Dream Bridal Sales & Consultancy



Dream Bridal is based on a simple concept of providing a before and after wedding consultancy service. The business is a first in Ireland where after the big event you can sell your wedding dress. Huge demand for its services has led to Dream Bridal expanding its Galway outfit to include other offices in Ennis and Meath. Frances came from a business orientated background as her father worked as a wholesaler for the beverage industry and she also had the experience of working in the family hotel. In addition to Dream Bridal, she works with hotels as an organiser for seminars and with brides who are having their wedding at their hotel.

For further information contact Dream Bridal at www.dreambridal.ie or telephone (093) 41982/087 1372761.

Patrick McKeown
— Asthma Care



Asthma Care Ireland was founded in March 2002 to help people with asthma and other respiratory problems to overcome their condition naturally, safely, and without any side effects. With clinics and books offering the Buteyko breathing method, instruction on correct diet, sleeping, exercise, and other lifestyle guidelines,

Asthma Care is innovative and unique as it is the only service of its kind in Ireland. Patrick McKeown is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin and the Buteyko Breathing Clinic of Moscow. He is one of a few Western experts and the only practitioner in Ireland directly authorised and accredited by the late Professor Buteyko to teach this method.

For further information contact Asthma Care, Unit 6 Calbro House, Tuam Road, Galway, online at www.asthmacare.ie or telephone (091) 756229.

Barry Chandler and Patrick McDermott
— Inspire Control



Inspire Control is a team of qualified food and beverage controllers who work with hoteliers, publicans, and restaurateurs to identify areas of cost-saving and profit generation through a process of analysing, optimising, and monitoring procedures and policies within each business. It has developed a unique suite of services to evaluate and increase efficiency through stock auditing, mystery shopping, auditing, HACCP implementation, and staff training as well as their implementation of www.barkeeper.ie, an interactive business management website.

Barry and Patrick set up Inspire Control in 2004, having spent many years working in various areas of the hospitality sector both at home and abroad.

For further information contact Inspire Control, 1 Kingsvalley, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway, online at www.inspirecontrol.ie or telephone (091) 762001.

Fergus Curley
— The Pure H2O Company



H2O sells a patented range of Aquathin water purification systems for people's homes, using advanced technology to remove 99.9 per cent of contaminants found in water to provide perfect drinking water. The system acts like a sieve, allowing only pure water molecules to pass through while everything else including metals, chemicals, drug residues, and bacteria is filtered out. Fergus Curley worked with Ionics Ireland and Ionics Incorporated USA from 2000-2003 as the sales and marketing director for the consumer water group. He managed a sales team of 175 people in the USA and optimised the performance of the sales and marketing division prior to the company's sale to General Electric.

For further information contact The Pure H2O Company Ltd Galway Technology Park, Parkmore, Galway, online at www.pureh2o.ie or telephone (091) 380100.

Final night and awards ceremony

In a night completely dedicated to local entrepreneurship and all it has to offer, JCI Galway is hosting the final of the Galway Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in the Ardilaun House Hotel at 7pm on Friday November 25.

The final night kicks off with all of the finalists giving a short presentation on their businesses, followed by a hot buffet meal and special guest speaker.